

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ESTABLISHING A VIRTUAL PATH  
CAPABILITY IN A FRAME RELAY NETWORK

A method and system for establishing a Virtual Path (VP12) capability in a Frame Relay network wherein frames are transmitted over a plurality of virtual circuits from a first switching node to a second switching node. A control message is transmitted from the first switching node to the second switching node with a Data Link Connection Identifier (DLCI) having a predetermined value indicating the purpose of the control message which is to define a virtual path aggregating at least two virtual circuits selected from multiple virtual circuits. The control message contains the identification of the virtual circuits aggregated in the defined virtual path.